

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A DRAFT INITIAL STUDY AND NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE TRANSFER OF WATER BY OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT AND SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT TO STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) and South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) plan to adopt a draft initial study/negative declaration for the Transfer of Water by Oakdale Irrigation District and South San Joaquin Irrigation District to Stockton East Water District (Project). The Project will be on the agenda of the public OID Board of Directors meeting on April 4, 2023, at 9:00 am at the OID Office, 1205 East F Street, Oakdale, CA. The Project will also be considered by the SSJID Board of Directors at a public meeting for which a date and time has yet to be determined. Once determined, the meeting agenda will be posted on the SSJID website, at www.ssjid.com. The Project proposes to transfer up to 10,000 acre-feet of surplus surface water in critically dry years, as defined by the San Joaquin River Basin index, and up to 20,000 acre-feet of surplus surface water in all other year types from OID and SSJID to the Stockton East Water District (SEWD). The term of the agreement may start as soon as spring of 2023 and would end by November 1, 2032. Existing diversion and conveyance facilities are in place and no new construction is required as a result of the Project. The Project will provide an alternative water source to SEWD in years it does not receive a full allocation of water from the Bureau of Reclamation, and will not increase the total water use within SEWD. The Project site consists of land within the SEWD service area, primarily located within San Joaquin County. Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study has been prepared, describing the degree of possible environmental impacts of the proposed Project. OID and SSJID have assessed the potential environmental impacts of this proposed action and have determined that they will be less than significant. Copies of the Initial Study and proposed negative declaration are on file and available for public review at the OID Office, and at www.oakdaleirrigation.com. The public review period during which OID and SSJID will receive comments on the proposed negative declaration will begin on February 15, 2023 and end on March 17, 2023. Comments should be in writing, if possible, and addressed to Scot Moody, OID General Manager, at either smoody@oakdaleirrigation.com, or 1205 East F Street, Oakdale, CA 95361.